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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8319
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS ATHENS 000467

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TAGS: KNNP PARM PREL GR

SUBJECT: GREEK RESPONSE TO RRW ANNOUNCEMENT

REF: A. SECSTATE 25145

1B. SECSTATE 26734

- 11. (SBU) On March 2, DepPolCouns delivered ref a demarche on the announcement of the Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW) program to officials in several relevant offices at MFA, including A7 North America Directorate acting chief Grigorios Vassiloconstandakis, D2 NATO Directorate deputy chief Chronis Polychroniou, and D1 International Organizations and Non-Proliferation Directorate officer Photis Bourlogiannis.
- 12. (SBU) Because the announcement was made late Friday, there was little mention in the Greek press over the weekend. Pro-governing-party paper Eleftheros Typos found room on page one for a report from its Washington correspondent, opining that the RRW aimed to "terrorize Iran and North Korea, hurt Russia economically, and tie Europe to the American chariot." The paper's diplomatic correspondent said the project seemed to be "a return to the Cold War era," adding that it also aimed at protecting Europe against missile attacks from the Middle East. The paper also commented that Greek diplomats shuddered at the idea of deploying nuclear missiles in Turkey. RIES